



Tennessee Crop Weather

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In Cooperation with Tennessee Department of Agriculture

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Week Ending October 9, 2011

MILD DRY AUTUMN WEATHER PUSHES HARVEST FORWARD

Tennessee farmers made significant harvest progress during last week’s dry fall weather. Corn and tobacco harvests at week’s end were winding down while soybean and cotton harvests were in high gear, even though progress lagged behind normal and last year’s rapid pace. The cotton and soybean crops were rated mostly in good-to-excellent condition. Other activities last week included wheat and forage seeding, cutting hay, applying lime, and defoliating cotton. Also, tobacco growers are beginning the stripping process in preparation for marketing. Pasture growth has slowed due to dry conditions.

There were 7 days suitable for fieldwork across the state. Topsoil moisture levels were rated 3 percent very short, 30 percent short, 66 percent adequate and 1 percent surplus. Subsoil moisture levels were rated 8 percent very short, 28 percent short and 64 percent adequate. Temperatures averaged near normal across Tennessee last week. Rainfall averaged below normal across the state.

CROP PROGRESS					CONDITION					
Crop	This Week	Last Week	2010	Five Year Avg.	Item	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
Percent					Percent					
Corn – Harvested for Grain	88	83	98	86	Cotton	1	5	24	61	9
Cotton – Bolls Opening	93	86	100	96	Pastures	4	18	43	34	1
Cotton – Defoliated	86	67	98	83	Soybeans	4	9	33	48	6
Cotton – Harvested	32	12	62	36						
Soybeans – Dropping Leaves	82	68	95	89						
Soybeans – Harvested	29	14	60	38						
Tobacco – Burley Harvested	91	85	94	92						
Tobacco – Burley Stripped	8	1	4	10						
Tobacco – Dark Fire-Cured Harvested	94	90	96	95						
Winter Wheat – Seeded	19	10	14	13						

n/a = not available

County Agent Comments

“Overall, crop conditions are very good considering all the rain in the spring and then drought condition in early to mid-summer. Corn yields are averaging 125 bu. per acre; cotton is picking bale and half to two bales per acre and having good yields on some beans.”
J.C. Dupree, Jr., Lauderdale County

“The farmers had a good week of harvest. The weather was great for harvest and farmers were able to make good strides in bean/cotton harvest and spraying defoliants. Yields are average to below.”
Jeffery D. Via, Fayette County

“An excellent week of harvest weather has allowed producers to accelerate soybean and cotton harvest. Producers are moving back and forth between corn and soybeans to allow additional drying time for corn. Lime applications are being made and field work is ongoing in preparation for wheat seeding.”
Jeff Lannom, Weakley County

“A beautiful and dry fall week allowed row crop farmers to wrap of corn harvest and make a lot of progress on soybean harvest. Haymaking was also a common sight in fields during the week. A Light frost was reported in some areas earlier in the week causing livestock producers, who were grazing pastures with prussic acid prone plants, concern.”
Calvin Bryant, Lawrence County

“Harvest went well until all elevators got full and there's nowhere to go with the grain.”
Larry Moorehead, Moore County

“Mild and dry weather with no precipitation this past week. Farmers busy this past week finishing up corn harvest, soybean and cotton harvest in full swing, limited hay harvest, some pasture seeding, and preparing fields for seeding wheat. Soybean harvest efforts stepped up last week as producers began harvesting late group IV maturity beans. Pastures continue to provide grazing, no hay feeding at this time.”
Ed Burns, Franklin County

“Pastures could use some rain, but soybean harvest would slow. Folks will finish corn this week.”
J. Dale Beaty, Warren County

“Good weather gave way to re-seeding of pastures and continued hay harvest. Corn grain harvest made progress and soybean harvest began in earnest. The Brown Marmorated Stink Bug is making its debut in Blount County with reports of infestation from several locations.”
John Wilson, Blount County

“Dry weather this week. Lots of corn, beans and hay harvested. Yields are down on all three. Two frosts this week. Johnson grass prussic acid has been an issue.”
John Goddard, Loudon County

“Lack of rain is slowing down pasture growth. Weather has been good for last hay cutting.”
Chris Ramsey, Sullivan County

TEMPERATURES AND PRECIPITATION
For week ending: October 9, 2011 (with comparisons)

LOCATION	TEMPERATURE				PRECIPITATION					
	Week Ending October 9, 2011				Current Week 10/09/11	Rain Days	Current Since January 1	Departure From Normal January 1	Current Since April 1	Departure From Normal April 1
	HI	LO	AVG	DFN						
West										
Ames_Plantation	86	36	63	-2	0	0	42.29	2.17	29.77	3.42
Brownsville_TN	84	39	65	-1	0	0	46.43	6.38	33.85	7.60
Covington	85	39	63	-2	0	0	46.97	7.65	35.28	9.64
Dyersburg	84	39	64	-2	0	0	39.61	1.39	26.44	1.04
Huntingdon_Wate	84	39	62	-1	0	0	47.41	6.54	33.10	5.99
Jackson_Exp_Stn	85	36	63	-1	0	0	46.03	6.08	34.19	7.52
Lexington_TN	83	39	63	-2	0	0	39.86	0.95	28.33	2.61
Martin	85	39	65	2	0	0	51.74	11.31	35.29	8.10
Memphis_AG	86	39	65	-3	0	0	45.74	6.66	34.12	8.53
Milan	84	38	63	0	0	0	54.69	12.96	40.74	12.63
Paris	83	39	62	2	0	0	54.78	14.71	38.79	12.23
Savannah_6SW	84	37	64	-3	0	0	46.59	3.42	32.05	4.34
Selmer	84	36	62	-1	0	0	44.73	2.25	32.40	5.16
Union_City	84	36	63	1	0	0	48.72	9.30	33.55	7.31
Middle										
Clarksville_Sew	86	41	65	3	0	0	53.76	15.09	39.35	14.33
Cookeville	84	35	59	-3	0	0	54.71	10.63	38.24	9.19
Crossville_AP	80	37	60	1	0	0	46.77	3.83	32.12	4.20
Dickson_AG	82	36	62	-2	0	0	44.27	2.88	29.10	1.72
Dover_1W	82	41	62	2	0	0	54.01	13.72	37.42	11.03
Fayetteville_TN	83	36	62	1	0	0	50.65	9.40	33.97	8.00
Jamestown	80	34	57	-3	0	0	54.90	12.12	37.25	8.31
Kingston_Spring	86	38	61	0	0	0	42.24	2.44	29.15	3.32
Lawrenceburg_Fl	83	42	63	2	0	0	46.64	3.84	32.76	5.78
Lewisburg	84	34	60	-3	0	0	50.29	8.22	35.03	7.54
Linden	87	38	63	2	0	0	41.89	-0.41	29.05	1.74
Livingston_WLIV	83	35	60	-2	0	0	53.75	12.79	34.66	7.22
Murfreesboro_5N	84	36	61	-3	0	0	48.80	7.44	34.82	7.24
Nashville_Metro	83	41	64	-1	0	0	40.07	3.36	27.62	3.15
Oneida	82	32	56	-2	0	0	58.82	16.18	39.99	11.22
Portland_TN	83	41	62	1	0	0	46.46	6.84	30.42	4.10
Pulaski_Water_P	81	34	60	-6	0	0	53.21	10.93	38.42	11.53
Shelbyville	84	38	63	-2	0	0	53.43	11.17	37.06	9.68
Sparta_TN	83	35	60	-2	0	0	52.97	10.41	37.29	9.30
Springfield	83	40	62	2	0	0	46.67	8.57	32.40	7.17
Springhill	87	34	60	-2	0	0	38.92	-3.04	26.56	-0.79
Tulahoma	81	37	63	-1	0	0	46.43	3.04	32.40	4.98
East										
Chattanooga/Lov	82	40	64	-2	0	0	45.10	3.67	26.71	1.01
Cleveland_6NNE	80	37	61	-2	0	0	46.96	4.53	32.53	5.66
Dayton	78	43	61	-3	0	0	46.17	2.80	29.47	2.12
Erwin_1W	80	38	58	-1	0	0	41.08	1.90	29.57	1.90
Gatlinburg_2SW	78	34	56	-4	0	0	48.52	3.38	34.07	2.87
Greeneville	82	32	57	-4	0	0	36.59	2.33	25.97	2.40
Kingston_AG	81	40	61	2	0	0	47.08	1.99	30.63	1.62
Knoxville_AP	81	38	61	-1	0	0	39.53	2.71	25.57	2.07
Newcomb	80	36	58	0	0	0	48.57	5.93	34.06	5.29
Norris_4NE	79	35	59	-3	0	0	49.84	8.84	33.29	6.18
Tri-City_RGNL_A	83	35	59	-2	0	0	36.08	3.45	23.33	1.07

DFN = Departure From Normal (Using 1961-90 Normals Period). Rain Days = Days with precip of 0.01 inch or more during the week. Precipitation (rain or melted snow/ice) in inches.
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